

JUL 07 2008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 8747**
Norihito SHIMONO et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2002_0055A
Serial No. 10/048,063 : Group Art Unit 1618
Filed January 28, 2002 : Examiner Micah-Paul Young
SOLID PREPARATION CONTAINING : Mail Stop: Amendment
CHITOSAN POWDER AND PROCESS FOR
PRODUCING THE SAME

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The Examiner still rejects claims 29, 30, 33, 34, 37 and 38 under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Lerner et al. '332 in view of Dutkiewicz et al. '322. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner appears to misunderstand the characteristics of the claimed invention.

The present invention is concerned with a sustained release preparation comprising a medicament-containing solid material and a water-insoluble coating film, which is characteristic in that

(i) said water-insoluble coating film consists of ethyl cellulose, ethyl acrylate-methyl methacrylate-trimethylammoniummethyl methacrylate chloride copolymer, and methyl methacrylate-ethyl acrylate copolymer,

(ii) the weight ratio of said water-insoluble polymer and said chitosan powder is in the range of 1:4 to 4:1, and